

## Message Text

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10

ACTION AEC-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AECE-00 SSO-00 SCI-06 RSR-01

RSC-01 /031 W

----- 080986

R 290651Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6326

UNCLAS TOKYO 11039

DEPT PASS AEC FOR FRIEDMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH JA

SUBJECT: REACTOR SAFETY

1. REF TELCON HELFRICH TO FRIEDMAN THIS SUBJECT ON AUGUST 28. JAEC HAS ANNOUNCED FOLLOWING ACTIONS AS RESULT OF USAEC DECISION TO DERATE POWER LEVEL OF 10 BWRS: A) TEAM OF SPECIALISTS (PROBABLY FOUR PEOPLE) WILL BE SENT TO WASHINGTON FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH USAEC AND ACRS; B) EXAMINATION COMMITTEE FOR REACTOR SAFETY WILL BE ASKED TO STUDY THE PROBLEM; AND C) JAEC INTENDS PROPOSE TO USAEC THAT COMMUNICATIONS BE IMPROVED SO THAT IN FUTURE INFO RE SUCH CONTEMPLATED ACTIONS CAN BE PROVIDED IN ADVANCE.

2. TIMING OF TEAM VISIT TO US NOT DECIDED SINCE PROPOSED TEAM LEADER IS NOW IN EUROPE AND HAS NOT YET BEEN CONTACTED; HOWEVER, NEWSPAPERS STATE THAT TEAM MAY BE SENT EARLY NEXT WEEK. THIS TIMING CONSISTENT WITH PROBLEM CONFRONTING JAEC WHICH POINTS OUT IT MUST MAKE EARLY DECISIONS RE IMPACT ON JAPANESE BWR'S BUT CURRENTLY HAS NO DETAILED INFO ON REASONS FOR AEC DECISION. JAPCO HAS VOLUNTARILY REDUCED OPERATING POWER LEVEL OF TSURUGA NUCLEAR PLANT BY SIX PERCENT; HOWEVER, TEPCO WHICH HAS ONLY OTHER FULLY OPERATIONAL BWR REPORTEDLY CLAIMS THERE NO NEED TO REDUCE FUKUSHIMA-1 POWER LEVEL. JAEB OFFICIALS HAVE ADVISED AEC SCIREP THAT SINCE FUKUSHIMA-1 IS JUST STARTING OPERATIONS AGAIN AFTER EXTENDED MAINTENANCE SHUTDOWN, THEY HAVE ABOUT 10 DAYS TO MAKE DECISION ON POWER LEVEL.

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3. JAEB OFFICIALS HAVE PROMISED ADVISE AEC SCIREP OF COMPOSITION OF TEAM AND TIMING PROPOSED VISIT AS SOON AS INFO AVAILABLE.

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## Message Attributes

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